

From
Rufus Tyler, Esq.
Comr of Br. Mint
New Orleans.
Feb 14/38.

Recd 27th

of

D. D. M. G. Henderson

Director of the N. S. Mint

Philanthropic Soc

New Orleans Branch

New Orleans Branch Mint

Feb. 14th 1838

Sir

I have the honor to inform you in relation to my duties in this Institution that I am progressing as fast with the preparatory arrangements and fixtures belonging to my Department as the circumstances under which we labour, will permit — That I am not at this moment ready for active operation must be attributed to the condition in which we found the Building and the machinery which had been misplaced by Mr Hope — As it is I expect to be able to do something at coming before the end of March — I should be glad to have a few pairs of Dies for the half Dollars, and for Dimes and half Dimes, as I am preparing the largest and the smallest Presses to commence upon —

The Bill of Lading for the brass castings has been handed me but the vessel has not yet arrived — The Adjusting Balances ordered from Mr Francis have not been received but will soon be required, I have therefore that you will be pleased to cause inquiry to be made concerning them and if convenient have them sent on

My large Balance for weighing Silver Coins, Planchets &c. and another for the Adjusting Room are also wanting —

In addition to the foregoing requests, I beg leave to suggest that it appears to me highly important that I should have fair samples of all the Coins intended to be struck at this Branch

furnished by the Mother Mint - They would be immediately useful to me

I have been under the disagreeable necessity of my Foreman Washington Jackson - He has disappointed me exceedingly, for though once as good a Journeyman as I could desire, he is now conceited, pitiless, and incompetent as a Foreman

Mr Maxwell has also been under the necessity of discharging some of his men for insubordination and that open spirit of rebellion which is subversive of all authority, and which if not crushed in the bud would render it impossible to carry on the business of the Mint in such a place as N. Orleans

In the absence of our Superintendent who is confined by severe indisposition, and not having received our funds from Washington which were written for early in the last month, we advised Mr Forestall to draw on you in favour of Mr Barnett in order to get rid of him and his men, believing them to be among the prime movers and instigators of all the mischief that has occurred - Happily the firmness and independent course of the Officers has resulted in the establishment of order and a good understanding with the ^{remainder of the} men generally, although at one time we were in danger of a more extensive loss unless we were willing to submit to such regulations as the disaffected portion aided by Messrs Barnett & Co should think proper to dictate - There still amongst my common hands one dangerous man whose place can be much more worthily filled as soon as the departure of these men shall have rendered it pudent to dismiss him - You will have from Mr Maxwell a more particular account of

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of the conduct of the disorganizers among us, together with a copy of the Rules which we thought proper to adopt and which were dictated by the kindest feelings of regard for the interests and convenience of the Men, in view of all the circumstances of the case -

As soon as the funds written for arrive, the amount of the Draft will be forwarded to you - We yet hope we may be in time to anticipate the arrival of the men and the presentation of the Draft -

The Melting & Refining, and the Assaying departments are I believe nearly ready to commence operation, and we have had the offer of a deposit of five or six thousand dollars to await the time of beginning to coin, but could not receive it for want of the means of assuring its value

Dr Hort wishes me to say that he has Ballance to weigh with, or graduated measures with which to determine the volumes of his solutions as pointed out by Gay Lussac and Chaudet, but that he will do the best he can in the absence of them

Very respectfully

Your obedient Servt

Pufus Tyler

Coiner

To / Dr R. M. Patterson

Director of U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

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Director of M'states Mint
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